

Writing competition

Step into a symphony of stories!

Imagine a world where books burst open and amazing characters from every kind of story leap out!

Write a short story about a wonderful world filled with colourful characters.
(Limit of 3 pages per entry.)

A World Waiting to Be Found

Jack would never have believed that losing his favorite teddy, Biscuit, would take him on a journey he would never forget. One minute he would be searching under beds, in drawers, and behind couches, and the next be staring at a tiny door that may have not been there before. On the door was a sign that said, "Lost and Found," in faded red writing. Curious, Jack leapt for the handle. Suddenly, a warm breeze gushed out and filled the room. Before he could step back, Jack was sucked into the small world, like a leaf caught in the wind.

Jack found himself rolling down a hill, expecting to eventually run into something hard like a rock, but never did he anticipate hitting a sock, and not just a smelly old sock you would find in your room, a sock monster. "Sorry, I don't think I got your name," the sock monster questioned. "I am Fred, Fred Smiggens." Jack was stunned there was a talking sock monster in front of him.

"Excuse me, I asked you a question," Fred explained. "What's your name?"

"Jack, um, where am I?" Jack questioned.

"The Lost and Found, where what is lost is cared for," Fred explained.

Jack suddenly realised if this really is the place where what is lost is cared for, that means Biscuit must be here too.

"Did you recently meet a teddy bear whose name was Biscuit?"

"No, but I do know someone that did," Fred claimed.

Fred started to slowly slither down the old cobblestone pathways, covered in dirt and sprouting with weeds. "Are you coming?" Fred asked.

"Coming!" Jack shouted as he started making his way down. Jack trailed down the windy roads as Fred led the way. His focus shifted to his watch. That's when he realised that it was always pointing to the time it was when he left searching couches and entered the Lost and Found world, 6:30 am.

Along the way, he could see the world was filled with marble rivers that sparkled under the golden sun, each sphere gleaming like polished jewels, lollipop flowers, and cotton clouds that drifted lazily overhead, so fluffy, Jack considered sleeping on them.

Once they arrived, “Hey, Captain Buttons, do you know where a bear named Biscuit is?” Fred asked.

Captain Buttons turned around, and as he did, Jack realised straight away that Captain Buttons was the leader of the Lost and Found, his coat just like that of a pirates, navy blue, mismatched buttons, and covered in dirt, with a magnificent hat topped with a feather blooming like a flower in the prime of spring.

“Prof Patch looked at him a couple minutes ago, should be right over at the repair station,” explained Captain Buttons.

Jack turned his head, relieved to finally have found him, but a bit nervous, fearing what Biscuit would think of how Jack treated him over the years. Jack can’t think of what he did wrong, but nevertheless, he was still worried.

“Hey, Biscuit, are you ready to come home?” Jack asked nervously.

“Why would I want to go? Have you seen this place?” Biscuit exclaimed.

“Plus, we were lost, we aren’t wanted,” another toy yelled from the back.

“Who said that? That’s ridiculous!” Jack explained. “Kids do not lose their toys on purpose, they lose them by accident. That’s why I am here today, trying to find a friend that just slipped away. Kids love you guys, not just because you are toys, but also because of the memories with you guys.”

Just like that, one by one, toys, bears, marbles, and collectables started remembering those late nights and the early mornings, filled with endless games or even the rainy days being clenched tight by their loving owners.

“You guys were never forgotten, you just forgot that you were loved,” Jack explained.

“So does that mean our kids are searching for us now?” one asked.

“Yes!” Jack yelled.

“Then what are we waiting for, let’s find our kids!” another piped in.

“Yes!” they all chanted. “Yes! Yes! Yes!” in unity. The chants slowly turned into footsteps as they started heading to the portal.

Once they reached the portal, everyone started disappearing into the gloomy purple glow.

All except for two, Captain Buttons and Prof Patch.

“You go,” Captain Buttons explained. “We will stay behind to take care of this beautiful land, and I will need someone to help fix the toys.”

Soon Jack disappeared with Biscuit, the two leaving Captain Buttons and Prof Patch to rebuild this world to a beautiful break rather than an oasis for people to stay. Jack woke up lying under the warm covers of his bed. He opened his eyes and saw Biscuit. He then looked at his watch and realised the time was 6:30. He smiled, wondering if the adventure had really happened.